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(12) **United States Patent**
Laudrain

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(54) **METHOD FOR BOARDING AND UNLOADING OF PASSENGERS OF AN AIRCRAFT WITH REDUCED IMMOBILIZATION TIME OF THE AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT AND AIR TERMINAL FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC B64F 1/30; B64F 1/31; B64D 9/00; B64D 11/00; B64C 1/32; B64C 39/00; B64C 39/02; B64C 2211/00
See application file for complete search history.

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 311 days.

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(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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Methods for transferring a payload such as passengers and/or luggage and/or freight between an airport and a cabin of an aircraft are provided. Air terminals, aircraft and removable cabin modules suitable for implementing these methods are also provided. An aircraft is provided which includes a removable cabin module. A docking module is also provided for transferring a removable cabin module between an aircraft and an airport. A method for modifying the internal configuration of the cabin of such an aircraft by replacing a removable cabin module of the aircraft is also provided.

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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B64C 2211/00 (2013.01); **Y02T 50/82** (2013.01)

19 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

